

Staff

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE

Stoke-upon-Trent Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report of the Sanitary Condition of the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent and Vital Statistics for the Year, from January 1st to December 31st, 1910.

AREA.—The area is a very scattered one consisting of the villages of Bucknall, Eaves, and Botteslow; the parish of Baguall having been transferred to the Rural District of Leek in the year 1906.

The Census was taken in March, 1901, but after so long a period it is difficult to ascertain the exact Population, but upon a rough calculation (114 new houses having been built since it was taken), there are 916 houses in the Rural District, viz.—755 in Bucknall Ward, 48 in Botteslow Ward, and 113 in Eaves Ward. Taking 5 persons in each house as the basis of calculation, my estimate of the present population is 4580.

Sections 4 to 9, 13, 14 and 16 to 20 of the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890 and Part III of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (so far as the same is applicable to Rural Districts) was adopted by the Council in 1892.

FACTORY ACTS.—All the places under this Act have been visited once a quarter. There are altogether 10, viz.—1 Blacksmith's, 3 Crate Shops, 2 Boot Shops, 2 Flint Mills, and 2 Bakehouses, all within the Bucknall Ward.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are only 2, both being in the Bucknall Ward, and the same are in good sanitary condition.

The night-soil and ashes are removed by contract which has been done fairly regularly during the year.

NOTIFICATIONS.—There have been 76 received during the year, viz.—16 Diphtheria, 1 Erysipelas, 49 Scarlet Fever, 8 Enteric Fever, and 2 Consumption.

Twenty-three cases were removed to the Hospital, the patients being seriously affected and unable to be properly nursed at home. In one case of Enteric Fever the cause was filth and dirt; in two cases no cause could be ascertained. In each case the dairy or milk shop where the milk was obtained was visited by the Inspector.

On receipt of a notification, the Inspector visited the house and if the patient was properly isolated he left one of my leaflets on the prevention of the disease and the precautions to be used, and after the recovery of the patient, disinfected the house and bedding. If the patient was seriously affected, I visited the person or gave an order for removal to the Hospital.

MILKSHOPS AND DAIRIES.—The Inspector and myself have made a personal inspection once a quarter. They are all in a cleanly, and sanitary condition, and in most cases the cows were examined, to see if there were any cases of Mastitis, which, in my opinion is often the cause of milk being contaminated.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—There are 9 licensed; they have all been regularly inspected and are all in a good sanitary condition; the occupiers being very careful that no blood enters the sewers, as they now have a ready means of its disposal for the manufacture of manure.

There has been a large amount of sickness in the district during the year especially amongst children.

In January, I was obliged to close the Botteslow School. There were only 10 children present; most of the absentees were suffering badly, from a severe epidemic of Chicken Pox and Measles.

In June the Bucknall Church Schools were closed as so many children were suffering from Whooping Cough and Measles, and shortly afterwards the Infants' Department of the Council School was closed owing to so many of the children suffering from Measles.

In my opinion no child should attend school when there is Measles or Whooping Cough existing in the house, as the contagion is carried farther than that of any other infectious disease.

On the whole, the district has escaped remarkably well, considering Scarlatina has been so prevalent in all the neighbouring towns.

BIRTHS.—There have been 151 Births registered during the year, viz. :— 64 Males, 86 Females, and 1 Illegitimate child, at an annual rate of increase of 34·5 per 1000 ; the usual rate for the last ten years being 33·9.

Number of Births in the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent, from Jan. 1st to Dec. 31st, 1910.

							Males	Females	Born out of Wedlock	Totals
January...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	14		21
February	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3		6
March	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	11		18
April	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8		9
May	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	6		10
June	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	1	13
July	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1		7
August	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	10		13
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	8		12
October	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	5		11
November	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	8		20
December	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	6		11

VACCINATION.—In the Rural District :—

Births	Vaccinated	Unsuccessful	Objections	Deceased	Postponed	Gone out of District, No trace	Not Vaccinated
151	73	...	26	17	3	4	28

DEATHS.—There were recorded in the obituary 131 Deaths at an annual rate of mortality of 28·6 per 1000, but 63 of the deaths occurred at the Joint Hospital, and if these are deducted (the same being children and persons brought from the neighbouring towns), there remain only 68 for the Rural District or at the rate of 14·8 per 1000. The average rate for the last ten years has been 13·9, or one per 1000 below the rate for the last year. The causes were 2 of Scarlatina, 1 of Enteric Fever, 2 of Diarrhœa, 2 of Tubercular Diseases, 4 of Cancer, 8 of Bronchitis, 6 of Pneumonia, 3 of Premature Births, 1 in Childbed, 8 of Heart Disease, 1 Suicide, 6 of Convulsions, 3 of Senile Decay, and 2 of Apoplexy. The remainder were from natural causes. There were only 25 children under one year, viz.—3 Premature Births, 6 of Convulsions, 4 of Inflammation of the Lungs, 2 of Bronchitis, 2 of Scarlet Fever, 1 of Diarrhœa, and 7 ill-defined causes of death, which is a very low rate of Infantile Mortality.

Considering that there were three epidemics and only two deaths from Scarlatina and one from Measles, it is a remarkable record, and shows that by distributing the leaflets and closing the schools, the parents were solicitous about the welfare of the children ; yet many persons argue the futility of a closure, no doubt because the healthy ones are difficult to be kept out of mischief whilst away from school and troublesome to the parents.

Particulars of each Death that has occurred at the Hospital have been sent to the Medical Officer of Health of that District ; also a weekly return of Infectious Diseases to the County Medical Officer of Health. Now the regulations are altered and these are to be sent weekly to the Statistical Department of the Local Government Board.

From the Statistical Table supplied by the Inspector appended :—

114 Notices were served for Sanitary requirements—the result of our visitation and inspection.

He inspected 920 Houses and Premises. Dwelling-houses repaired and cleaned 76, so that there has been a good advance in the sanitary condition of the District.

RURAL DISTRICT OF STOKE-UPON-TRENT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1910 and previous years.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District				Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District	Deaths of Patients removed to the Hospital from other Districts	Deaths of regist'r'd Districts	Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to the District			
		Number	Rate	Under 1 ye'r of age		At all ages					Number	Rate	Number	Rate
				Number	Rate per 1000 Births regist'r'd	Number	Rate							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
1905	5013	146	29.1	22	150.6	90	17.7			31	59	11.7		
1906	5013	173	34.5	31	179.1	131	26.1			63	68	13.5		
1907	4275	165	38.5	15	90.9	100	23.3			45	55	12.8		
1908	4275	144	33.6	9	62.4	88	20.5			36	51	11.9		
1909	4275	149	34	10	67.1	133	30.4			68	65	14.8		
Averag's for years 1900— 1909	4710	160	33.9	18.3	113.6	118.5	25.3			50.9	69	13.9		
1910	4580	151	34.5	25	165.5	131	28.6			63	68	14.8		

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water). } 3120

Total Population at all ages, 4580
 Number of inhabited houses, 916
 Average number of persons per house, 5 } At Census of 1901.

JOHN SWIFT WALKER, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Nuisance Inspector's Report for year ending Dec. 31st, 1910.

Notices served for Sanitary Amendment	...	...	...	...	114
Houses and Premises inspected	...	...	...	...	920
Houses disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	58
Manure heaps removed	...	...	...	...	1
Registered Dairies and Cowsheds inspected every quarter	...	...	...	...	51
Slaughterhouses inspected every quarter	...	...	...	...	9
Bakehouses inspected every quarter	...	...	...	...	2
Factories inspected every quarter	...	...	...	...	2
Workshops inspected every quarter	...	...	...	...	5
Public Wells inspected every month	...	...	...	...	4
Lots of Bedding disinfected	...	...	...	...	126
Ashpits and Privies repaired	...	...	...	...	22
Dwellinghouses repaired and cleaned	...	...	...	...	76
Water Closets repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Patients removed to Hospital	...	...	...	...	23
Whitewash Brushes let out	...	...	...	...	164

GILBERT McHARG.

RURAL DISTRICT OF STOKE-UPON-TRENT.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1910.

Cause of Death				Deaths in or belonging to Whole District at Subjoined Ages.							Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths in Rural District
				All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards		
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	34	1	20	12	...	1	...	32	2
Whooping-cough	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and membranous croup	...	...	...	16	...	10	5	1	...	...	16	...
Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric	...	...	...	14	...	...	8	3	3	...	13	1
Other continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
Enteritis	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other septic diseases	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Phthisis	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other tubercular diseases	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer, malignant diseases	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	6	...	8
Pneumonia	...	...	...	6	4	...	1	1	...	...	...	6
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature birth	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Diseases and accidents of parturition	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Heart diseases	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	1	6	1	...	8
Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicides	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	...	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Senile decay	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Apoplexy	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
All other causes	...	...	...	14	7	...	...	1	4	2	1	19
All Causes	...	...	...	131	25	38	27	7	17	17	63	68

MEDICAL OFFICER'S

Annual Report

OF THE

RURAL DISTRICT OF STOKE-UPON-TRENT.

FOR THE YEAR 1910.